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## FRENCH-ENGLISH DICTIONARY.

*A French and English Dictionary*, by HJALMAR EDGREN, Ph. D., Professor of Romance Languages in the University of Nebraska, and PERCY B. BURNET, A. M., of the High Schools of Chicago. New York: Holt & Co., 1901, pp. xvi-1252.

THE purpose and scope of this new dictionary of the French and English languages is concisely stated in the introduction (p. v) in the following words:

"We have endeavored to prepare a work embodying: I. A scholarly and yet thoroughly practical French-English dictionary, founded upon the highest modern authorities, and embodying a measurably complete list of modern and obsolescent French words with their pronunciation, derivation, and earliest occurrence in the language, as well as their meanings and less obvious uses; and II. An English-French dictionary serving the purposes of French composition and speaking, and containing a sufficient amount of modern and archaic words with their pronunciation, and etymologically arranged, to serve the French student of English."

These general features of the dictionary are explained at greater length in the succeeding pages of the introduction, which further includes a list of dictionaries used in the compilation, the elaborate scheme of indicating pronunciation followed out in the body of the text, a list of the abbreviations used, and a table of French money, weights, and measures, with American equivalents. The introduction is very clear and satisfactory, but two points seem to call for remark. In the first place it is rather surprising in such a complete scheme of pronunciation not to find some provision made for distinguishing between the French final consonants which are silent under all conditions, and those which may be pronounced in linking, as *aspect* and *tabac*. In the second place the word *chronique* should not be cited under examples of English words (p. xiii, l. 11).

Upon opening the dictionary proper, the reader's eye is at once struck by the unusual appearance of the words. This is due to the system of marking the pronunciation already referred to, which consists of countless signs and double signs beneath and through the

letters and the use of italics for all silent letters. The compilers' purposes, to force the pronunciation upon the student's attention and to save space, are evidently accomplished. A further saving of space is secured by the grouping of related words under a single stem so far as is possible without sacrificing alphabetical order. That instant knowledge of the pronunciation and economy of space are great advantages to the student the reviewer will readily admit, but to one who uses his dictionary chiefly for translation the advantage is questionable, because of the greatly increased strain upon the eyes and attention in rapidly seeking for a particular word. Furthermore, though strictly logical, the scheme of indicating the pronunciation is so complicated that few students will take the trouble to master it. Besides the marks of pronunciation, each word is followed by a small figure to denote the time of its introduction into the language. This sign is a small ° for indigenous words, for others it is the first two figures of the actual date of introduction. The objection can be made to this system of dating that the number 17, for example, suggests to most students the seventeenth century rather than the year 17—, of the eighteenth century.

In a short review it is impossible to consider every word cited in the twelve hundred odd pages, the reviewer has, therefore, chosen for especial study certain arbitrary groups of words. In the French-English section of the dictionary these groups consist of the words beginning with *la*, prepared by Mr. Burnet, and those beginning with *ta*, as far as *tantôt*, by Professor Edgren. These sections have been minutely compared with the corresponding sections of the *Dictionnaire Général*,<sup>1</sup> the small *Dictionnaire Complet* of P. Larousse,<sup>2</sup> Gasc's *French and English Dictionary*, Student's Edition,<sup>3</sup> and Heath's (Cassell's) *French and English Dictionary*.<sup>4</sup> The results of this

1 *Dictionnaire Général de la Langue française*, par Hatzfeld, Darmesteter, Thomas, 2 vols., Paris, n. d.

2 P. Larousse, *Dictionnaire Complet Illustré*, 80 édition, Paris, 1896.

3 F. Gasc, *Dictionary of the French and English Languages*, New York, n. d.

4 Heath's (Cassell's) *French and English Dictionary*, by De Lolme, Wallace, and Bridgeman, revised and enlarged by E. Roubaud, Boston, New York, Chicago, n. d.

comparison are very favorable indeed to the new dictionary. In the list of words cited in the French-English division the *Edgren-Burnet* follows very closely the *Dictionnaire Général*, in the number of words it is quite superior to the *Larousse* and *Heath* dictionaries, but, in turn, the *Gasc* far exceeds the *Edgren-Burnet*. The following table will show the relative position of the new dictionary more precisely, the figures after each name represent the number of words there found which are lacking in the other dictionary, double spellings and proper names are included.

Dict. Gén.: *la* 3, *t-tan* 5; *Edgren-Burnet*: *la* 1, *t-tan* 21.

*Larousse*: *la* 16, *t-tan* 9; *Edgren-Burnet*: *la* 88, *t-tan* 32.

*Heath*: *la* 33; *t-tan* 14; *Edgren-Burnet*: *la* 83, *t-tan* 31.

*Gasc*: *la* 197, *t-tan* 68; *Edgren-Burnet*: *la* 20, *t-tan* 9.

In the matter of definition the same groups of words in the *Edgren-Burnet* have been compared with the corresponding sections of the *Dictionnaire Général*, and the following variations have been noted. *Labour*, ploughed land, is not found in the latter dictionary, while *labdacisme*, abuse of words beginning with *l*, is not in the *Edgren-Burnet*. The new dictionary fails to give the date of introduction of the following words: 2. *la*, *labour*, 2. *lai*, *laïcité*, *laideron*, *laite*, *lambel*, *lande*, *langoureux*, *langue*, *laryngotomie*, *laticifère*, *lauriot*, 2. *ta*, *tabiser*, *tabourin*, *tabulaire*, *tâcheron*, *tacheture*, *tachygraphique*, *tactilité*, *tadorne*, *taille-douce*, *taissonnière*, *talcaire*, *talciue*, *alcite*, *taluer*, *tamisage*, *tamise*, *tamiseur*, *tamisier*, *tanaisie*, *tangon*, *tanné*, *tanisme*. The following words are dated differently by the two dictionaries, the first date is that of the *Dictionnaire Général*, the second that of the *Edgren-Burnet*: *labourer*, tenth century, eleventh century; *lapidification*, 1690, eighteenth century; *laps*, thirteenth-fourteenth, fifteenth century; *tabletier*, thirteenth, twelfth century; *tâche*, twelfth, thirteenth century; *tactile*, 1541, fifteenth century; *taillade*, sixteenth, fifteenth century; *taillandier*, indigenous or 1564, fifteenth century; *taille-crayon*, nineteenth, fourteenth century; *taillerie*, 1304, thirteenth century. Again, the

system of indicating pronunciation made use of in the *Edgren-Burnet* occasionally causes trouble in derived words where the accent or vowel quality changes. Thus the *Edgren-Burnet* has *tâbâc* (to follow the *Dictionnaire Général*'s system of indicating quality) and hence (*tâbâ*)*gie* and (*tâbâ*)*quière*, whereas the second *a* in these words has the same quality as the first *a*.

The reviewer has not found it possible to examine the whole of the dictionary for misprints, but in the sections studied the following errors may be noted. In the Introduction, p. xiii, l. 25, the pronunciation mark over the *u* of *emulate* should be beneath the letter; p. xiii, l. 38, *ay* should read *ây* (?); p. xiv, l. 8, the *o* of *overtun* should have the mark beneath it, the *u* above. In the text, p. 622, read *tœnia* for *kenia*; p. 623, read *tamandua* for *tamadua*.

With regard to the English-French section of the *Edgren-Burnet* dictionary the reviewer feels that there is no need of a detailed study, in view of the fact that from the word *abridge* onward there are only the most trivial differences in the word lists and definitions between the new dictionary and that published by Messrs. Heath & Co. The reviewer does not give voice to this report, which has been circulated during the last few months, without having first carefully compared a number of words under each letter of the alphabet in the two dictionaries.

On the whole the writer considers the *Edgren-Burnet* dictionary a most timely and excellent contribution to the means of studying French in the United States. There has been up to this time no small dictionary at a reasonable price which combines so many advantages as does this last one. With a sufficiently large vocabulary, we have with each word its meaning, pronunciation, etymology, and date of introduction into the language. No student could ask for more in an abridged dictionary.

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#### ENGLISH LITERATURE.

*Shakespeare Studies. Macbeth.* By CHARLOTTE PORTER and HELEN A. CLARKE. New York: American Book Co., 1902.

THIS little book consists of two sections. The second includes the sources of the story (omit-